

It is a pleasure to honor these five extraordinary women and to highlight their contributions to their businesses, their neighbors and their communities.

TRIBUTE TO HARRY AND DARLA  
WYENO, CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 7, 2006*

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harry and Darla Wyeno who were recently honored with the Crowley County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Award. The Wyenos were described as making community service a labor of love. They have worked tirelessly for the benefit and promotion of Crowley County.

The Olney Springs couple was recognized for the volunteer work they do within the county, but especially for the work they do as members of the Crowley Heritage Society.

Although Darla is retired, she continues serving as the Town Clerk. Harry, who is also retired, still continues to work part time at the First National Bank of Ordway.

Whenever they are not working these jobs, they can be found volunteering. Darla is probably best known for her work as the President and Chief Procurer of Crowley County. She continues to gather, archive, and present the county's history. Through her efforts, grants for the Crowley Heritage Center have been procured so much of the historical collection can be catalogued and protected for future generations to enjoy.

As President of the society Darla has made certain that all cultural and ethnic groups in the region are recognized in the local museum. The couple has also been very involved in the Chamber of Commerce for many years.

In addition, the Wyenos can be found volunteering for their church, where among other things, they have been faithful choir members for over 50 years at the United Methodist Church of Ordway.

Harry and Darla Wyeno are two people whose strengths of love, devotion and community service are wonderful examples for all of us to follow. As a Member of Congress I am proud to represent such fine citizens from Colorado's Fourth Congressional District.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2006*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Coretta Scott King, wife of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a guiding force of the modern civil rights movement in her own right.

Just seventeen days ago we honored the birthday of her husband and celebrated January 16th as a national holiday in his honor. It would be too easy to remember Mrs. King simply as the wife of Dr. King, one of this country's great 20th century leaders. To do

this would be a disservice to the memory of a champion of civil and equal rights in her own right.

Coretta Scott King began her long career of civic engagement as an undergraduate at Antioch College where she joined the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

After graduating from Antioch with a B.A. in music and education, Coretta Scott received a scholarship to study concert singing at the New England Conservatory of Music in my home state of Massachusetts. While there she met her future husband, Martin Luther King Jr.

After receiving her degree from the Conservatory, she and Dr. King moved to Montgomery, Alabama. It was here that she and her husband became central figures in the Montgomery Bus Boycott and ultimately, the civil rights movement.

Following the success of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Dr. and Mrs. King traveled tirelessly to ensure that the civil rights movement continued to grow. Mrs. King's talent and education in the arts led her to conceive of and perform a series of Freedom Concerts which incorporated poetry, narration, and music to tell the story of the larger movement for equal rights. These concerts were vital in the fundraising efforts for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the organization her husband headed.

Mrs. King was not deterred by her husband's assassination, and if anything this tragic event strengthened her resolve in their shared struggle. In 1974, she established the Full Employment Action Council, a diverse coalition of more than 100 religious, labor, civil, and women's rights groups dedicated to economic justice through equal opportunity.

In 1983, Coretta Scott King marked the 20th anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington with another march on the Capitol featuring hundreds of organizations called the "Coalition of Conscience." At the time it was the largest demonstration in Washington's history.

Mrs. King led the movement to have her husband's birthday, January 15th, established as a federal holiday and I am happy to say that Congress and the President acted on the merit of Coretta Scott King's wish and established Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a national holiday in 1986.

While we are truly saddened at her passing, we are given pause to contemplate the impact she made during her lifetime on our lives and those of future generations. The freedoms all Americans enjoy today are due in no small part to her participation in the struggle for civil rights and equality.

Mr. Speaker, let us celebrate the achievements of this remarkable woman's lifetime and work to ensure that her legacy endures long after her passing.

RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF  
S. 1932, DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT  
OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2006*

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this week House Republicans high-

lighted their commitment to sound fiscal policy and protecting the hard-earned income of the American taxpayer by passing the Deficit Reduction Act. This legislation finds almost \$40 billion in savings through programmatic reforms to mandatory spending.

Along with my Republican colleagues, I supported this vital legislation because it ensures that Federal programs are more efficient for the beneficiaries that rely upon them, while safeguarding taxpayer dollars.

Unfortunately, the radical left wing could not even support this modest step towards making government more efficient. It seems that raising taxes and recklessly spending is the only fiscal policy they will support.

I applaud the Leadership of the House and Senate for bringing this legislation to the floor and greatly appreciate the President's support and commitment to fiscal responsibility and reducing the deficit.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2006*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ms. Coretta Scott King, a civil rights icon and the widow of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who died January 30, 2006, at the age of 78. Coretta Scott was born and raised on a farm near Marion, Alabama, where she knew little racial prejudice. However, living in town to attend high school, young Coretta learned firsthand of the harassment and violence directed at African-Americans. In 1942, at the age of 15, she was personally exposed to this hatred when the Scott home was set on fire on Thanksgiving night.

Church and music became Coretta Scott's salvation, and in 1945, she left for Antioch College in Ohio where as one of three African-American students in her class, she began to study music and education. After graduation, Coretta ventured off to the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston to study concert singing. It was in Boston where Coretta met Martin Luther King Jr., who was then studying for his doctorate in theology. She later said, "Even at the time we were courting, Martin was deeply concerned—and indignant—with the plight of the Negro in the United States."

The two married in 1953 and within the following decade became the parents to two sons and two daughters. In her new life as a married woman, Mrs. King gave up music to take on the role of a pastor's wife at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, where Dr. King became the seminal figure in the civil rights movement. Mrs. King joined her husband's pursuit of civil rights, and occasionally substituted for him as a speaker. They traveled the world, observing severe poverty and all its consequences, and together they learned the art of nonviolent protest from the disciples of Mahatma Gandhi. Throughout their married life, Mrs. King was an equal partner in Dr. King's tireless efforts to pursue justice, equality and peace, and was by his side in Oslo in 1964 when he received the Nobel Peace Prize.